

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 FEA-01 OPIC-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5889

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USMISSION NATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUDAPEST 1379

MUNICH FOR RFE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EALR, ENRG, HU, UR

SUBJ: ADDITIONAL HUNGARIAN PURCHASES OF SOVIET CRUDE

REF: BUDAPEST 510

1. LOCAL PRESS APRIL 24 ANNOUNCED THAT MAGYARS AND SOVIETS HAVE CONCLUDED AGREEMENT FOR HUNGARIAN IMPORT OF 500,000 TONS OF ADDITIONAL SOVIET CRUDE IN 1976, INCREASING HUNGARY'S TOTAL CRUDE IMPORTS FROM USSR FOR YEAR TO 7 MILLION TONS. UNDER THE NEW AGREEMENT HUNGARY WILL ALSO INCREASE ITS PURCHASES OF SOVIET GASOLINE BY 150,000 TONS. VALUE OF MINERALIMPEX (HUNGARIAN FTO) AND SOVIET TRANSACTIONS FOR YEAR WILL REPORTEDLY TOTAL 13 BILLION FORINTS.

2. FIGURE GIVEN FOR TOTAL HUNGARIAN CRUDE IMPORTS AGREES WITH DATA PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED AND REPORTED (REFTEL). IN FEBRUARY HUNGARY ARRANGED TO IMPORT 630,000 TONS OF CRUDE PRODUCTS FROM USSR, INCLUDING 100,000 TONS OF GASOLINE. THIS NEW CONTRACT THEREFORE MORE THAN DOUBLES INTENDED GASOLINE
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IMPORTS FROM SOVIET UNION.

3. A RELATED BUDAPEST TELEVISION NEWS STORY (CARRIED IN FBIS LONDON R-240655Z, APRIL 1976) NOTED THAT HUNGARY'S 1976 CRUDE REQUIREMENT IS 10 MILLION TONS: 2 MILLION TONS FROM DOMESTIC PRODUCTION, 7 MILLION TONS FROM THE USSR AND 1 MILLION TONS FROM "THE DEVELOPING ARAB COUNTRIES". THESE FIGURES TALLY ROUGHLY WITH EMBASSY ESTIMATES, BUT IN EMBASSY OPINION TOTAL CRUDE DEMAND FOR 1976 WILL BE SLIGHTLY MORE THAN 10 MILLION TONS.

MUDD

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